



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Timothy Q. Purdon  
District of North Dakota

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 13, 2011

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/nd/>

CONTACT: JULIE HOUGH

PHONE: (701) 297-7400

FAX: (701) 297-7425

## **Kansas Man Sentenced on Child Pornography Charges**

**FARGO** - United States Attorney Timothy Q. Purdon announced that on January 12, 2011, **Kenneth Lee Mahoney, Jr.** of Topeka, Kansas, was sentenced before United States District Court on charges of possession of material involving the sexual exploitation of minors and transportation of materials involving the sexual exploitation of minors.

Mahoney, Jr., 27, pleaded guilty on October 10, 2010, to possession and transportation of child pornography. Mahoney, Jr. purchased multiple subscriptions to a child pornography website which was dedicated to the distribution of material depicting the graphic sexual abuse of children. Based upon this information, law enforcement officers obtained and executed a search warrant for Mahoney, Jr.'s residence in Topeka, Kansas. When officers executed the search warrant, they discovered that Mahoney was an over-the-road trucker and that he was en route to Canada via the Pembina, North Dakota port of entry.

Later that day, Mahoney, Jr. arrived at the Pembina Port of Entry at which time he was stopped by Immigration and Customs Enforcement - Homeland Security ( ICE) special agents for an outbound inspection. During this inspection, ICE agents with the

-more-

assistance of United States Customs and Border Protection Officers (CBPO) searched the defendant's semi-truck and discovered a laptop computer as well as multiple cds and dvds. A subsequent forensic examination of the electronic media revealed approximately 6,465 images and 242 videos depicting children engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Such material depicts the sexual abuse of prepubescent children as young as two and three years.

Judge Erickson sentenced Mahoney, Jr. to six and a half years' imprisonment to be followed by 10 years of supervised release. Mahoney, Jr. was ordered to pay a \$200 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund.

The case was investigated by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement - Homeland Security.

Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Klemetsrud Puhl prosecuted the case.

This case was brought as a part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).

-end-